Nathan Bedford Forrest

Sustainability Features

Historical Significance

The park is named after Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest (1821–1877), who conducted operations in the area during the U.S. Civil War. The park encompasses part of Forrest's operational area during the 1864 Battle of Johnsonville, in which Forrest attacked and destroyed a Union supply depot and transfer station on the opposite bank of the river.

Museum

The Tennessee River Folklife Interpretive Center and Museum features displays documenting the life, ways, and customs of folks on the Tennessee River including musseling, crafts, commercial fishing, and more. Several videos on park history, Civil War history, and river life are available for visitors to enjoy. Live animal exhibits including fish and reptiles commonly found in the area are located at this facility as well.

Festival

Every September, the park holds the Folklife and Music Festival. This festival features local performers and craftsmen who teach today's generation about the old ways.



Did You Know?

Located within the park is Pilot Knob, which at 656 feet (200 m) is the highest point in West Tennessee. It was a key strategic location during the battle of 1864 and also served as an important landmark for river travelers.

Park Highlights



- Visited by more than 800,000 people in 2011
- There are over 25 miles of hiking trails
- Two backcountry shelters are available for overnight hiking trips
- The park sits on the west bank of the 200,00-acre Kentucky Lake. Boat ramp access is available within the park

